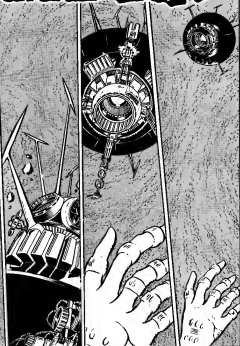


DEAD VENUS CYON VENUS



A close-up of a white, gloved hand holding a dark, irregularly shaped rock sample. The hand is positioned against a background of rough, grey rock.

WE HAVE
BEFORE US,
A SAMPLE OF
ROCK THAT
PROBE HIGH
TOOK.

BEFORE
WE GET INTO
THE MAIN
TOPIC...

AND HAS SIMILAR
CHARACTERISTICS
TO GRANITIC ROCKS
FOUND ON EARTH.

A close-up of a white, gloved hand holding a dark, irregularly shaped rock sample. The hand is positioned against a background of rough, grey rock.

IT'S OF
THE SAME
COMPOSITION
AS LUNAR
BASALT.

A close-up of a white, gloved hand holding a dark, irregularly shaped rock sample. The hand is positioned against a background of rough, grey rock.

IT WAS
RECOVERED FROM
A PLACE WITH AN
ATMOSPHERIC
PRESSURE OF
90 ATM.

A close-up of a white, gloved hand holding a dark, irregularly shaped rock sample. The hand is positioned against a background of rough, grey rock.

AS YOU
MAY HAVE
GUESSED,
IT'S FROM
VENUS...

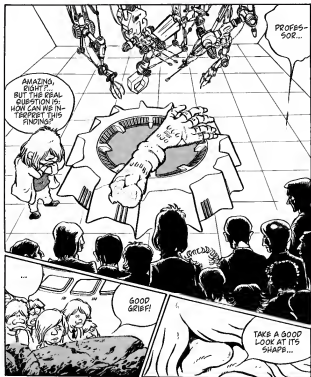
**A ROCK
FROM
VENUS!!**

A close-up of a white, gloved hand holding a dark, irregularly shaped rock sample. The hand is positioned against a background of rough, grey rock.

WITH A SURFACE
TEMPERATURE
OF 900°F, AND AN
ATMOSPHERIC PRES-
SURE THE EQUIVA-
LENT OF BEING
3,300 FT. BELOW
SEA LEVEL.

A black and white illustration showing the lower bodies and legs of two people standing side-by-side. They appear to be looking at something off-camera to the left.

WOW...







INTERSECTING
TRENCHES AND
SQUARED PATTERNS
ARE CLEARLY
VISIBLE.



YEAH,
I KNOW.

FOR EXAMPLE,
SOME PEOPLE SEE
HUMAN FACES IN
THE BRANCHES
OF TREES.

YOU CAN
FIND ALMOST
ANYTHING IN
A PICTURE,
DEPENDS
ON HOW YOU
INTERPRET
IT.



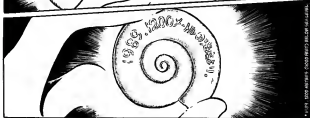
I COATED IT WITH
A LAYER OF A SPECIAL METAL
ALLOY OF MY DESIGN TO MAKE IT
UNBREAKABLE. NO HAMMER
NOR DRILL COULD BREAK IT,
EVEN THE CORE OF THE SUN
WOULDN'T MELT IT.

AN AMMONITE
FOSSIL I FOUND
DEEP UNDER
THE OCEAN.

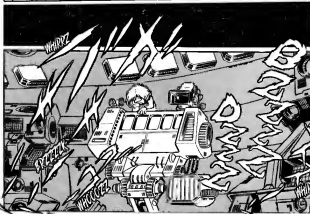
WHAT'S
THIS?



WHAT?
YOU'RE
GIVING IT
TO ME?!



THANKS
TO YOU,
THIS FOSSIL
WILL LAST
FOREVER.





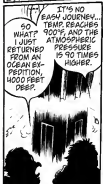
I'M STILL WORKING OUT THE DETAILS.

WHAT THINGS?



DO YOU THINK WE'LL MAKE IT BACK?

WE'LL LEAVE FOR VENUS ONCE I'M FINISHED WITH IT.



SO WHAT? I JUST RETURNED FROM AN OCEAN EXPEDITION, 4000 FEET DEEP.

IT'S NO EASY JOURNEY... TEMP. REACHES 900°F, AND THE ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE IS 90 TIMES HIGHER.



IT'S AN ANTENNA TOWER THAT WILL BE USED TO GAUGE SEVERAL THINGS.

SO NOISE!! WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON, PROFESSOR?



OH, DAISAI! THERE YOU ARE ...



SURE,
BUT BETWEEN
THE EARTH AND
VENUS, THERE'S
OUTER SPACE



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO COME
IF YOU DON'T
WANT TO, I'M
NOT FORCING
YOU...

I'LL GO
FOR SURE,
EVEN IF MAKING
IT BACK IS
UNCERTAIN.



...YOU'RE
A YOUNG
MAN WITH AN
INSATIABLE
CURIOSITY.

HOWEVER,
MY LITTLE
DAIDA...



I THINK
IT'S WORTH
THE RISK.

AND I'M
SURE YOU'D
LIKE TO KNOW
WHAT VENUS
IS LIKE.



WHAT
IS IT?

I'VE GOT A
QUESTION.

IF MAN HAD NOT
GONE AND EXPLORED
THE DEPTHS OF THE
OCEANS, WE WOULDN'T
KNOW THE WONDERS
IT CONCEALS.



WELL...

...WHY ARE
THEIR FINDINGS NOT
GOOD ENOUGH
FOR YOU?

IF AMERICAN
AND RUSSIAN SHIPS
HAVE TAKEN MEN TO
VENUS'S BACK
SEVERAL TIMES



"SOMETHING
CRUCIAL"
HM...

THERE'S
BEEN A CRITICAL
OMISSION IN
ALL OF THEIR
REPORTS,
SOMETHING
CRUCIAL.





YES, WE'RE
ALMOST AT THE MIDDLE
POINT BETWEEN THE
TWO PLANETS.

EARTH'S
ON THE RIGHT, AND
VENUS ON
THE LEFT.

...OUR SHIP SHOULD
PASS THROUGH
THE "DEAD ZONE"
VERY SOON.

IF AMERICAN
AND RUSSIAN
REPORTS
ON SPACE
TRAVEL ARE
CORRECT ...



BUT THE
MEASURING
DEVICES STILL
FUNCTION
NORMALLY.

THE SCREENS
WENT OUT!

~~~~~

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

SO THE DEAD ZONE IS IN FACT, REAL!!

ALL I KNOW IS THAT WHEN YOU REACH THE EXACT MIDDLE POINT BETWEEN THE TWO PLANETS, THE SHIP PLUNGES INTO A VOID.

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU PASS THROUGH AN AREA OF ABSOLUTE DARKNESS.

AND SO IS THE EARTH.

VENUS IS VISIBLE AGAIN.

WE WILL SOON BE ENTERING VENUS' ATMOSPHERE.

GET SOME REST, DAIBA.

NOT A SINGLE STAR IS VISIBLE!

VENUS AND EARTH ARE NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.





THE SHIP WAS PUT INTO ORBIT AROUND VENUS, THEN, A LANDER-MODULE EQUIPPED WITH SPECIAL MINDS WITH ALIBRONS, DETACHED, AND BEGAN ITS DESCENT. IT PASSED THROUGH ITS CARBON DIOXIDE SATURATED ATMOSPHERE....

NO... IT'S SO HAZY IT'S LIKE... BRING UNDER WATER!...

DO YOU SEE ANYTHING?



IT LOOKS LIKE THE PATCHES OF PLANKTON THAT DRIFT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.

SEEMS LIKE THE PROTECTIVE COATING OF THE ANTENNA COULDN'T WITHSTAND THE ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE AND THE CORROSIVE ELEMENTS PRESENT IN THE AIR.

THE RADAR STOPPED FUNCTIONING.

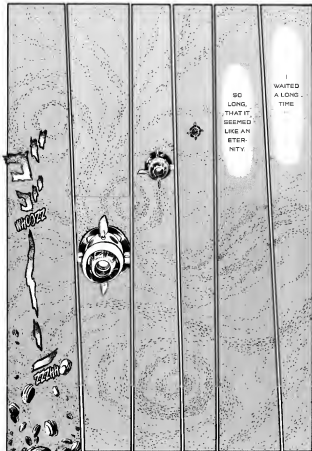


ALTITUDE: 115,000 FT. WE'LL SOON PASS THROUGH THE CLOUDS. VERTICAL DESCENT: 28 FT/S. EXTERNAL TEMP: 750°F. WATER AND SULPHURIC VAPOR: 100 PPM



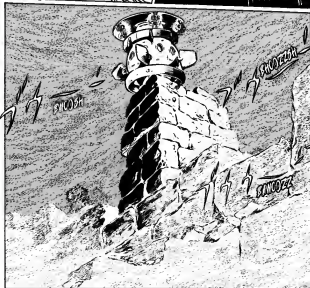
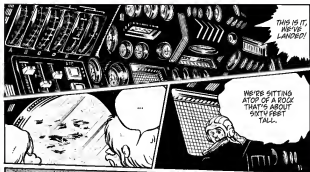
...AND REACHED THE SURFACE, WHERE THE TEMPERATURE WAS AROUND 900°F.





I  
WAITED  
A LONG  
TIME

SO  
LONG,  
THAT IT  
SEEMED  
LIKE AN  
ETER-  
NITY



THIS IS  
EXACTLY WHAT  
I WANTED TO  
SEE WITH MY  
OWN EYES!!





...REMNANTS  
OF A LOST  
CIVILIZATION.

BUT,  
THESE  
ARE...

...THE ATMOSPHERIC  
PRESSURE WAS  
LOW, AND A GENTLE  
BREEZE BLOW OVER  
THIS VENUSIAN  
CIVILIZATION.

IN THE  
PAST, THE SKY  
WAS PROBABLY  
AS BLUE AS  
ON EARTH  
...

THE AMERICANS  
AND RUSSIANS  
KNOW THIS,  
SO WHY DO  
THEY HIDE  
IT?

SINCE THE  
ATMOSPHERIC  
PRESSURE ON EARTH  
IS ALSO RISING,  
MAYBE THEY FEAR OF  
WIDE-SPREAD PANIC  
AMONG THE POPULA-  
TION BECAUSE OUR  
PLANET COULD END UP  
SUFFERING THE  
SAME FATE.

SINCE THE  
ATMOSPHERE  
TRAPPED ALL  
INTERNAL HEAT,  
THE TEMPERATURE  
INCREASED, AND  
LIFE WAS NO  
LONGER POSSIBLE,  
TURNING THIS  
CITY INTO A  
CEMETERY.

EVENTUALLY, THE  
PRESSURE ROSE,  
THICK CLOUDS FILLED  
THE SKIES, AND THE  
ROTATION OF THE PLANET  
BECAME SLOWER,  
MAKING A DAY IN VENUS  
ALMOST AS LONG  
AS AN EARTH  
YEAR.

OH  
NO!!

THE ANTENNA  
TOWER? THE  
ONE I BUILT  
ON EARTH?

THE TOWER  
SIGNAL IS  
GETTING  
STRONGER!

I JUST  
FINISHED  
BUILDING IT  
A FEW DAYS  
AGO  
BACK ON EARTH...  
HOW IS THIS  
POSSIBLE?

WHAT  
IS IT DOING  
HERE?

WHAT  
?!!

SO,  
IT IS  
TRUE

**I WAS RIGHT  
ALL ALONG!!!**

THIS PLANET  
IS NOTHING BUT  
EARTH, IN THE  
FUTURE!

VENUS...  
IS NONE  
OTHER THAN  
EARTH.

THE PAST ON ONE SIDE,  
AND THE FUTURE OF EARTH  
ON THE OTHER.

THE  
DEAD ZONE  
IS A TIME  
WARD.

AND VICE  
VERSA, WHEN  
YOU LOOK AT  
THE EARTH  
FROM VENUS,  
YOU SEE THE  
PAST.



WHEN YOU  
LOOK AT  
VENUS FROM  
THE EARTH,  
YOU'RE  
SEEING ITS  
FUTURE...

WHAT  
YOU'RE SAYING,  
PROFESSOR, IS THAT  
IT'S AS IF HE HAD  
TRAVELED FROM  
EARTH TO VENUS  
IN A TIME  
MACHINE?

???

I DON'T  
QUITE UNDER-  
STAND ANY OF  
THIS.

I FINALLY  
FIGURED IT  
OUT!!

THE PEOPLE WHO  
LIVED WERE WIPED OUT.  
YOU CAN FEEL THEIR AGONY  
IN THESE STONES, THESE  
ROCKS, IT'S SO TRAGIC! THESE  
RUINS ARE EVIDENCE OF THE  
EXTINCTION OF AN ENTIRE  
CIVILIZATION!

LOOKING AT  
THIS CITY, YOU  
REALIZE THAT NO  
ONE MANAGED  
TO GET OUT OF  
IT ALIVE.

THE AMERICANS  
AND RUSSIANS KNEW THIS,  
YET KEPT IT A SECRET!  
WORDS FAIL TO EXPRESS  
THE ATROCITY!

AND THIS EXTINCT  
CIVILIZATION...  
WAS OUR  
OWN!

???

DAMN IT!  
HOW CAN WE  
CONTINUE TO LIVE  
KNOWING THAT ALL  
OF OUR EFFORTS  
WILL BE IN  
VAIN?

ALL OF  
MANKIND'S  
ACHIEVEMENTS  
AND DREAMS FOR  
NOTHING?



I WAITED A  
LONG TIME...  
A VERY  
LONG TIME...  
BUT  
ULTIMATELY,  
THEY  
CAME



# SEA OF STARS

THE NEW ADVENTURE WORLD OF THE SEA OF STARS

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